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Participant Statement

2010 DEC 10 A 11:33

BEFORE THE
POSTAL REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, DC 20268

POSTAL REGULATORY
COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

In the Matter of:

LANCASTER TN 38569
Post Office State ZIP Code

Docket No: A 2011-2

Allen O. Mason et al, Petitioner(s)

PARTICIPANT STATEMENT

1. Petitioner(s) are appealing the Postal Service's Final Determination concerning the LANCASTER, TN post office. The Final Determination was posted 10/13/10.
(date)

2. In accordance with applicable law, 39 U.S.C. § 404(b)(5), the Petitioner(s) request the Postal Regulatory Commission to review the Postal Service's determination on the basis of the record before the Postal Service in the making of the determination.

3. Petitioners: Please set out below the reasons why you believe the Postal Service's Final Determination should be reversed and returned to the Postal Service for further consideration. (See pages 1-2 of the Instructions for an outline of the kinds of reasons the law requires us to consider.) Please be as specific as possible. Please continue on additional paper if you need more space and attach the additional page(s) to this form.

Please refer to attached documents.

CLOSING OF LANCASTER, TN POST OFFICE

PARTICIPANT STATEMENT

1. Lancaster has had a post office since May 18, 1821. Please refer to exhibit #1.
2. When the Lancaster Post Office was placed on temporary suspension of services in 2003 we believe that proper procedures were totally ignored. Please refer to exhibit # 2, paragraph 2.
3. Please refer to Exhibit # 2, paragraph 3 and exhibit # 3.
4. The closing of the Lancaster facility would leave the Eastern and Southeastern part of Smith County without a postal facility. This would require a 30 to 45 minute round trip for the residents of this area. Please refer to exhibit # 4.
5. Population and recreational growth will continue in Lancaster with new developments at Center Hill Dam, Highland Cove Condominiums, Cove Hollow Bay, and The Corps of Engineers. Please refer to exhibit # 5.
6. The residents of Lancaster do not believe the cost savings of closing the Lancaster facility are accurate because the rents of the other facilities were not taken into consideration. Lancaster \$900/yr. Gordonsville \$7,400/yr., and Hickman \$3,828/yr.. The Gordonsville and Hickman facilities are only a mile apart with a total amount of rent \$11,228/yr. for two facilities that are so close to each other.
7. The residents of Lancaster were never given an explanation or the opportunity for recourse when the facility was put on temporary suspension of services in 2003. In recent correspondence a statement was made that the postmaster at the time asked for a transfer. No phone calls were taken or returned by the regional office in Nashville, TN. Mr. Ron King was the area manager and Ms. Candy Clark was the postmaster at the time.
8. Please refer to exhibit # 6 to read a newspaper article about the first and only meeting between Lancaster residents and postal officials. All subsequent requests for meeting and/or discussions with postal officials were denied.

Exhibit #1

A2011-2

LANCASTER POST OFFICE

Abner Lacke	May 18, 1821
Alfred Vannerson	Jan 10, 1833
William D. Lester	Oct 28, 1835
William Lancaster	Jan 23, 1839
John Lancaster	Sept 8, 1842
Thomas C. Marchbank	Apr 17, 1844
Michael Lancaster	Aug 16, 1852
Discontinued	Sept 22, 1866
Reestablished	Oct 13, 1874
Jesse D. Fisher	Oct 13, 1874
James C. Prichard	July 12, 1878
Discontinued	July 28, 1879
Reestablished	Oct 27, 1885
Charles S. Kinslow	Oct 27, 1885
Discontinued	Oct 28, 1887
Reestablished	Sept 28, 1888
William B. Reynolds	Sept 28, 1888
Jesse D. Fisher	Aug 15, 1896
William Lancaster	Mar 7, 1898
Harrison Starnes	Sept 19, 1903
James F. Ash	Oct 20, 1904
Henry C. Lancaster Jr.	Sept 24, 1910
Edgar D. Robinson	Apr 21, 1914
Mrs. Jessie M. Burton	Aug 31, 1954
Carlene Helm	Dec 19, 1979
Candy Clark	1999
Temporary Suspension Of Services	March, 2003

Exhibit # 2

A 2011-2

Received

NOV 08 2010

Office of PAGR

June 30, 2009

USPS
c/o Ms. Sandra Quick
811 Royal Pkwy
Nashville, TN 37229-9751

Dear Ms. Quick:

Please reconsider your decision to close the Lancaster, TN Post Office. There are several reasons for this request; cost savings to USPS, number of customers, growth, logic, common sense, driving distance to another postal outlet, and the pledge of the USPS to provide good service to it's customers.

2 (When the Lancaster Post Office was placed on temporary suspension of services in 2003 we strongly felt that proper procedure was totally ignored. There was no notification of any kind, no meeting, and no postings. The USPS called the Carthage Courier after the Lancaster location was placed on temporary status and had the paper place a notification about the cessation of services. The majority of the postal customers that had inside boxes were told to erect roadside boxes or go to another location. We also strongly feel that our fundamental rights were violated at that time and we will be seeking legal counsel to determine if the USPS actions were illegal.

Good business acumen dictates that a business start cutting cost by reducing its largest expenses. You are considering closing the least expensive location as far as rent is concerned. The Lancaster Post Office is only costing you \$900.00 a year in rent. The other locations in this area are costing you much more; Hickman \$3,828/yr, Buffalo Valley \$11,363.75/yr, Chestnut Mound \$13,200/yr, Gordonsville \$7,400/yr, and Elmwood \$3,600/yr. The Lancaster location is in the heart of the route and would save on auto expenses and driving time.

3 (The enclosed petition is signed by 150 USPS customers that live in the Lancaster area. There are also 56 active boxes in Highland Cove Condominiums and 120 active boxes in Cove Hollow Bay. There are other areas around Cove Hollow on Center Hill Lake that have developments planned.

Exhibit #3 A 2011-2

Petition

We the undersigned object to the closing of the Lancaster Tennessee post office. We believe there are other options that will meet the objectives of the postal service.

	Signature
1	Melanie Bennett
2	Melinda McDermott
3	Kathleen Williams
4	Cynthia Fuge
5	Joyce Bege
6	Sheela Gullett
7	Susan Gullett
8	Patricia Bennett
9	Paula Bennett
10	James Bennett
	Mike Thompson
12	John Williams
13	John Williams
14	John Williams
15	Wanda Williams
16	Paula Williams
17	Holly Williams
18	Katie Williams
19	Katie Williams
20	Katie Williams
21	Katie Williams
22	Katie Williams
23	Katie Williams
24	Paula Williams
	Paula Williams

Petition

We the undersigned object to the closing of the Lancaster Tennessee post office. We believe there are other options that will meet the objectives of the postal service.

	Signature	Address	Zip Code	Phone Number
51	[Signature]			
52	[Signature]			
53	[Signature] Manager			
54	[Signature]			
55	[Signature]			
56	[Signature]			
57	[Signature]			
58	Christy Lench			
59	Tomm Glade			
60	[Signature]			
1	[Signature]			
62	[Signature]			
63	[Signature]			
64	Genie VanVorst			
65	Pete VanVorst			
66	[Signature]			
67	[Signature]			
68	[Signature]			
69	[Signature]			
70	Judy Bates			
71	[Signature]			
72	Labrina Gentry			
73	[Signature]			
74	[Signature]			
75	[Signature]			

Petition

We the undersigned object to the closing of the Lancaster Tennessee post office. We believe there are other options that will meet the objectives of the postal service.

	Signature	Address	Zip Code	Phone Number
76	Tommy H. Hays			
77				
78	William H. Hays			
79	Donnie B. Hays			
80	Johnny Keely			
81	Robert Hays			
82	Gary Hays			
83	Ray Hays			
84	Bill Hays			
85	Shelley Hays			
86	Sharon Hays			
87	Gary Hays			
88	John Hays			
89	Jimmy Hays			
90	Mike Hays			
91	Bobby Hays			
92	Darla Cowan			
93	Robert Hays			
94	John Hays			
95	B. Hays			
96	William A. Carter			
97	William A. Carter			
98	William A. Carter			
99	William A. Carter			
100	William A. Carter			

Petition

We the undersigned object to the closing of the Lancaster Tennessee
Post Office.

	Signature	Address	Zip Code	Phone Number
101	Willie Bennett			
102	Irish Montgomery			
103	North Williams			
104	Paul Baker			
105	Jason Smith			
106	James Dink			
107	Julia Tisdale			
108	Ray L. Tisdale			
109	Alton Wood			
110	Pat Wood			
111	Phyllis Baker			
112	ANN HANCOCK			
113	Larry Watts			
114	Ruby Watts			
115	James Stewart			
116	John Smith			
117	Lancaster File Dept			
118	Eric Smith			
119	Alvin D. White			
120	Paul Parkerson			
121	Paul Parkerson			
122	Michael L. North			
123	Janet K. North			
124	Jimmy Norris			
125	Mary Cunningham			

Petition

We the undersigned object to the closing of the Lancaster Tennessee
Post Office.

	Signature	Address	Zip Code	Phone Number
151	Michael Wood			
152	Evelyn Kelley			
153	Mike Warner			
154	Mark Bob			
155	Lisa Butler			
156	Betty Moss			
157	John Reynolds Jr			
158	Michael Miller			
159	Janna Gillard			
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174				
175				

WE THE UNDERSIGNED OBJECT TO THE REMOVAL OF
THE LANCASTER POST OFFICE.

*-----

1	David McCullough
2	Wang The dance
3	Wend Wood
4	Kevin Wood
5	Kim Judd Lanc
6	Sam Judd
7	Alan A. Bays
8	Paul L. Sanders
9	Jason A. Sanders
10	Diana Cobb
11	Robert Hughes
12	Kenny Hughes
13	Darlene Cole Lanc
14	Bill Cole
15	David Gentry Lanc
16	Bonnie Gentry Lanc

17 Albert Moss [REDACTED]

8 Rennette mols

9	Robert Jane [REDACTED] 1-20-79
---	--------------------------------

0	Sandra Jones
---	--------------

1. Faye + Herbert (1)

2	Ricky Trubb	2
---	-------------	---

3	Y Helen Marie Robinson
---	------------------------

24 | Roll Manning

2. Ammie Noalwa

1/6	Ronald D. Nedrow
-----	------------------

207	Amanda Redrow-J
-----	-----------------

18	William Jones	La
----	---------------	----

19	April 18 58 L
----	---------------

30 Himalayan hamster

1)	Rich Ezzell	5
----	------------------------	--------------

2	Helen Ezell	57
---	-------------	----

3 | Cindy J Taylor

74 [Kullu] Jagan

5 Betty Lullatt 60

36 Harry Tennison

7 Brenda Jennings

8 Mr. H. H.

9 Nancy Janice

10 Jeff Leroy

11 Irma Lancaster

12 John Williams (J)

13 Lucinda Sharp

14

15

16

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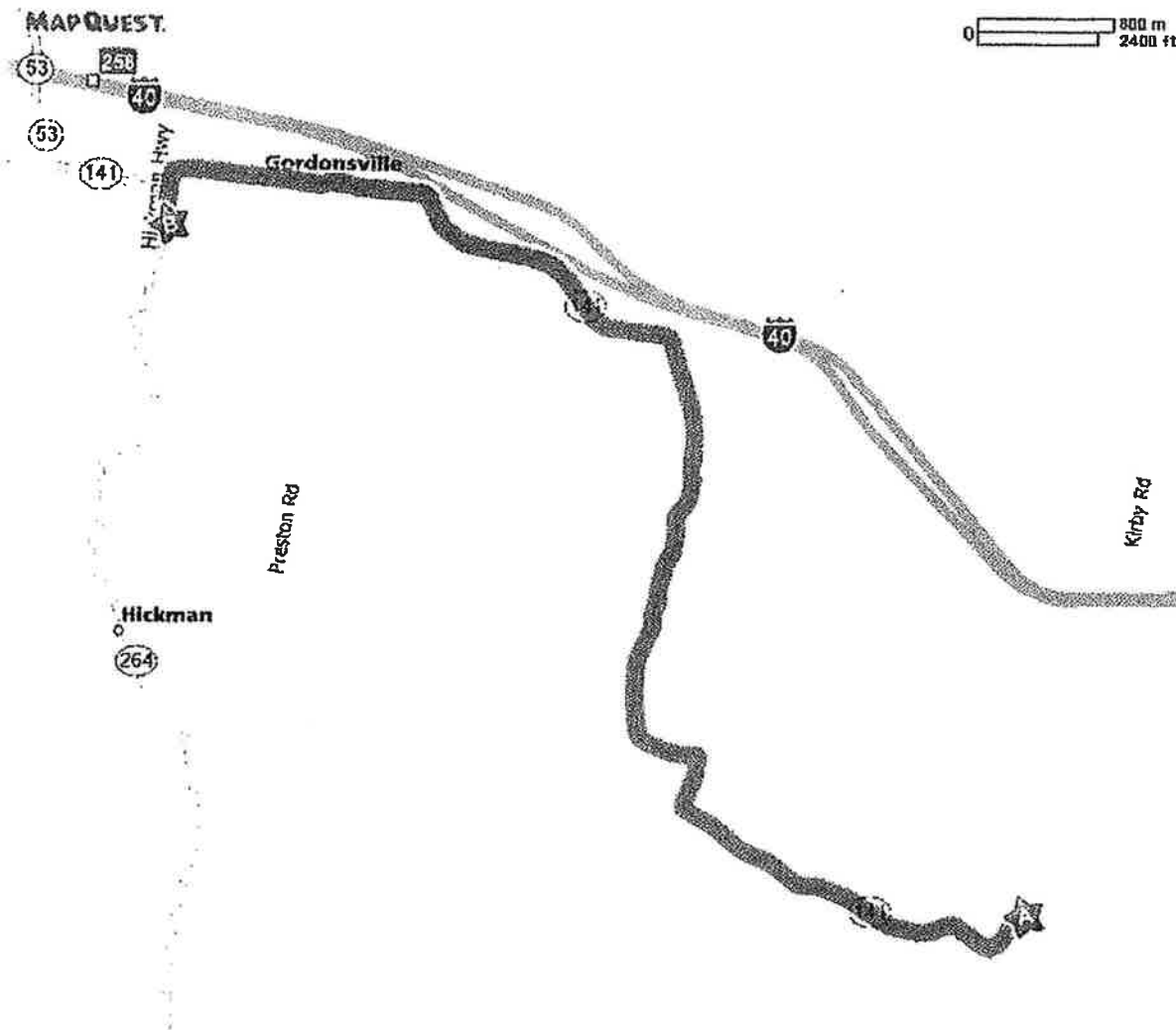
22

23

Exhibit #4

A2011-2

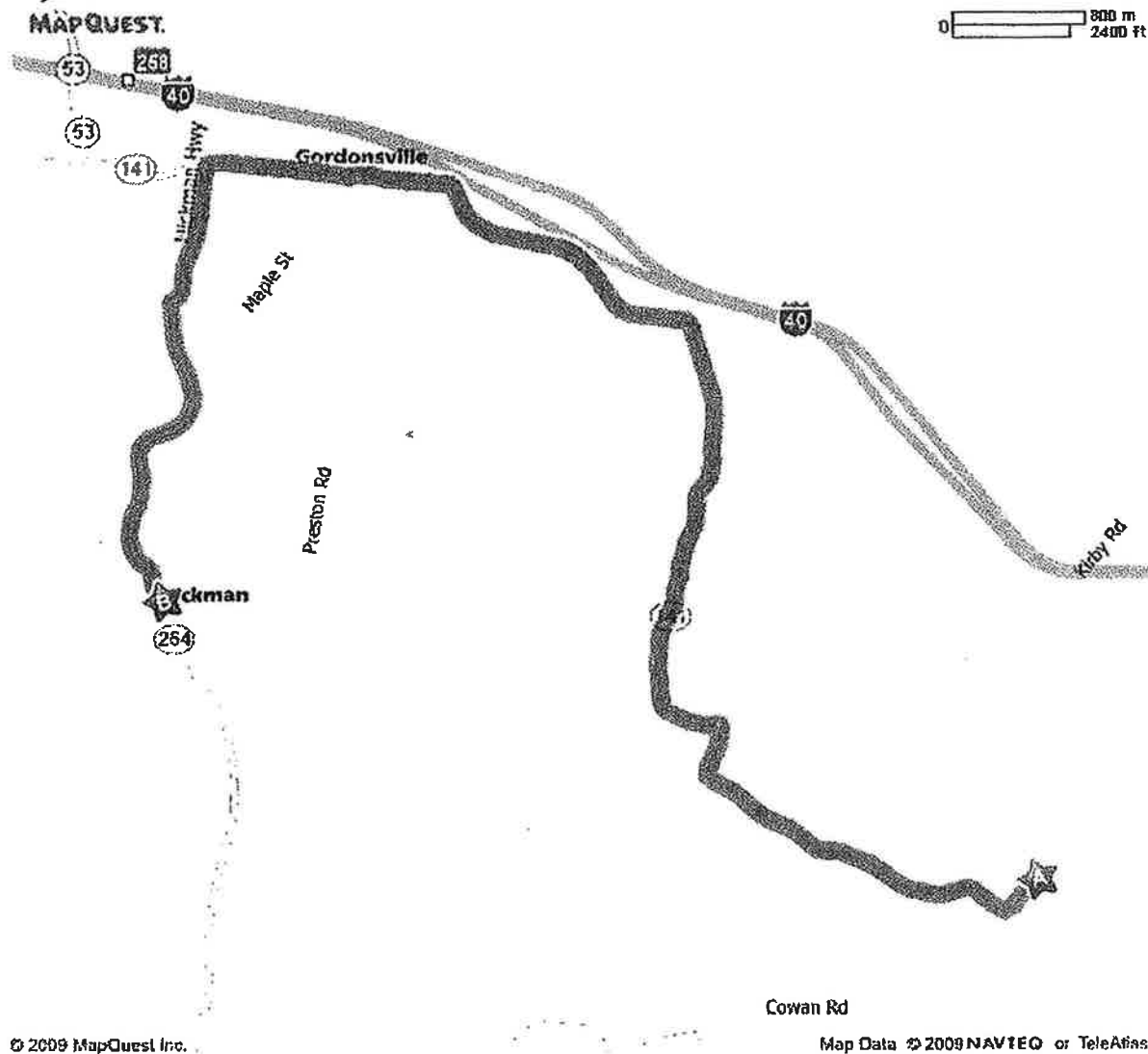
Driving Directions from 746 Lancaster Hwy, Lancaster, TN to 25 Hickman Hwy, Gordon... Page 2 of 2



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Exhibit #5

A 2011-2



BUTLER & ASSOCIATES

PROPERTY ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

PO Box 747, Smithville, TN 37166 • Phone: 615-215-1212 • Fax: 615-215-1224 • Email: g_butler@biomand.net

June 23, 2009

To Whom It May Concern:

Highland Cove Condominiums currently has 56 boxes dedicated for mail delivery. Each condominium has a designated box assigned to them.

Cove Hollow Bay has more than 120 boxes dedicated for mail delivery. Each lot owner has a designated box assigned to them.

It is in the best interest of the community, with so many mail recipients on Dale Ridge Road, to keep the post office open in Lancaster.

We kindly appreciate your consideration in this matter.

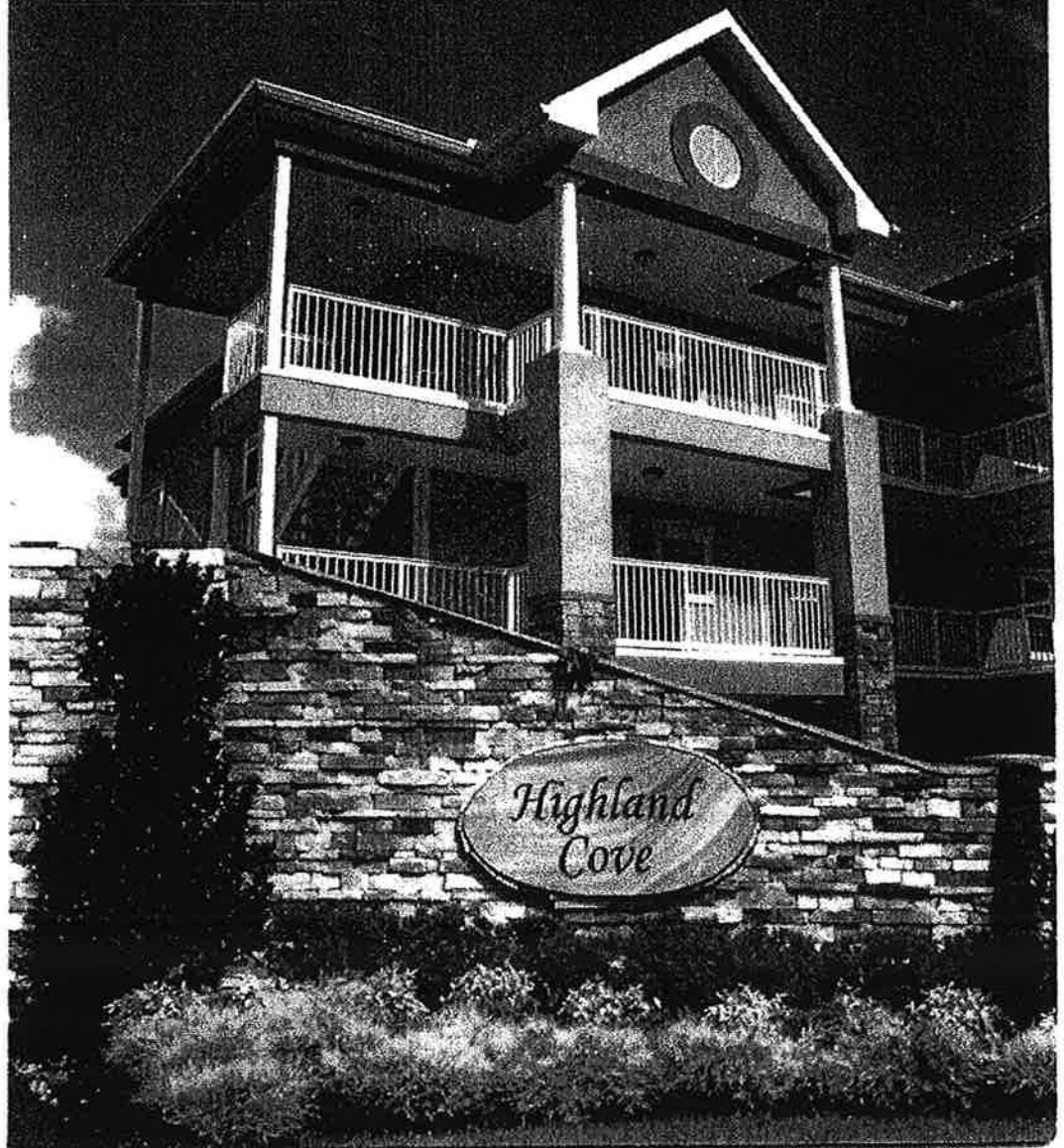
Sincerely,

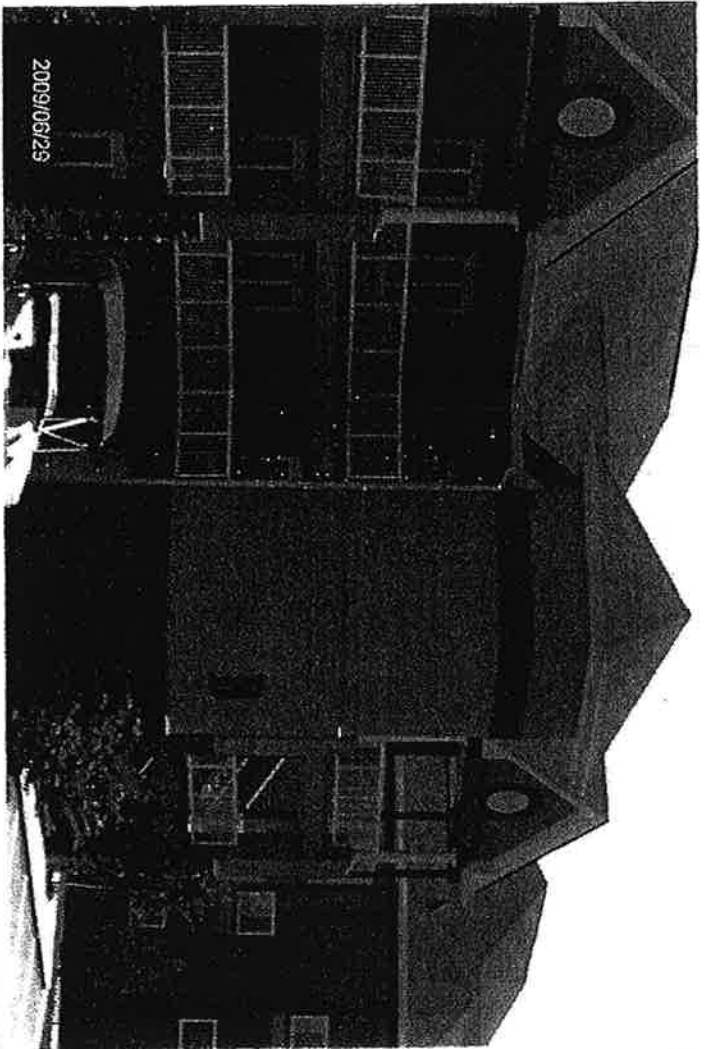
Gina Butler

Gina Butler

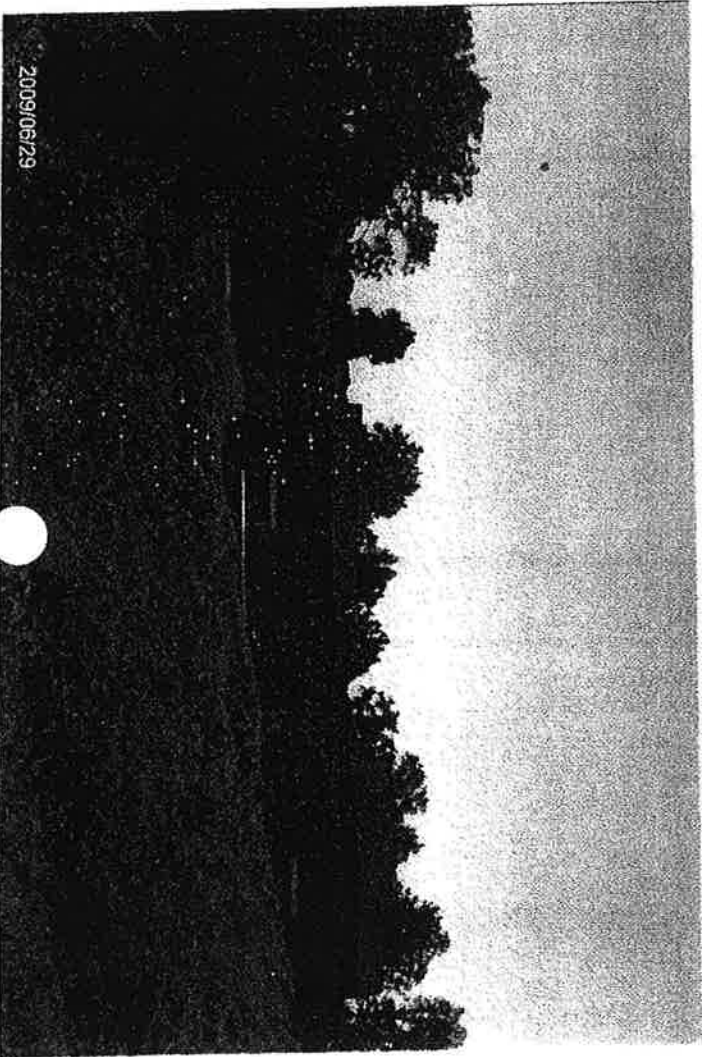
Highland Cove Condominiums

On Center Hill Lake, Tennessee

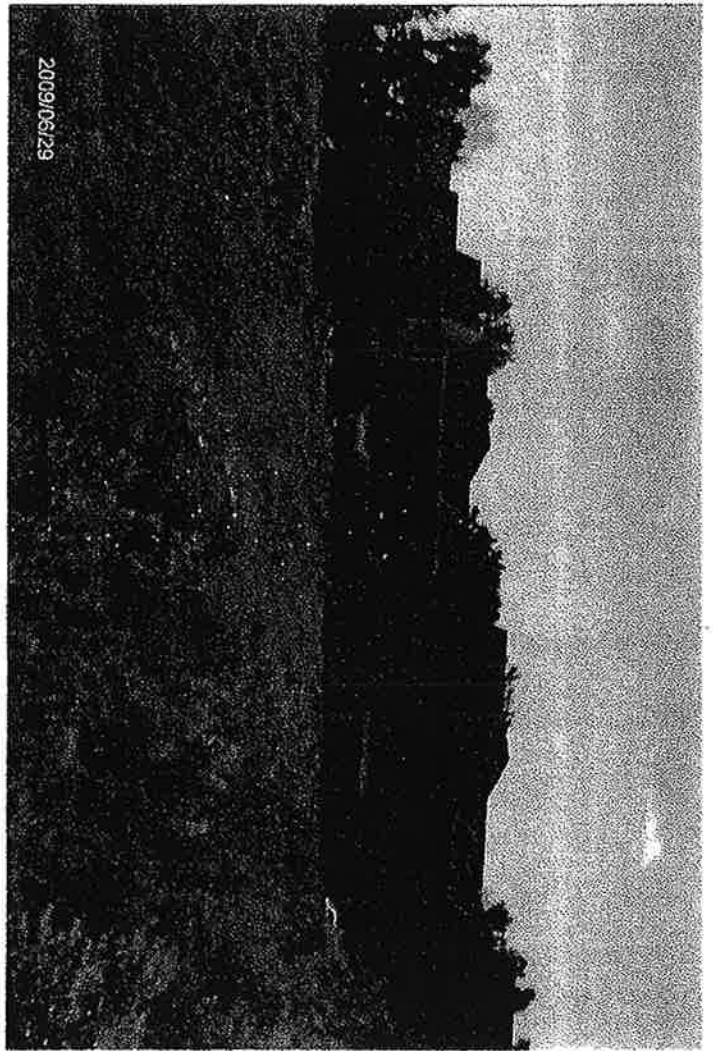
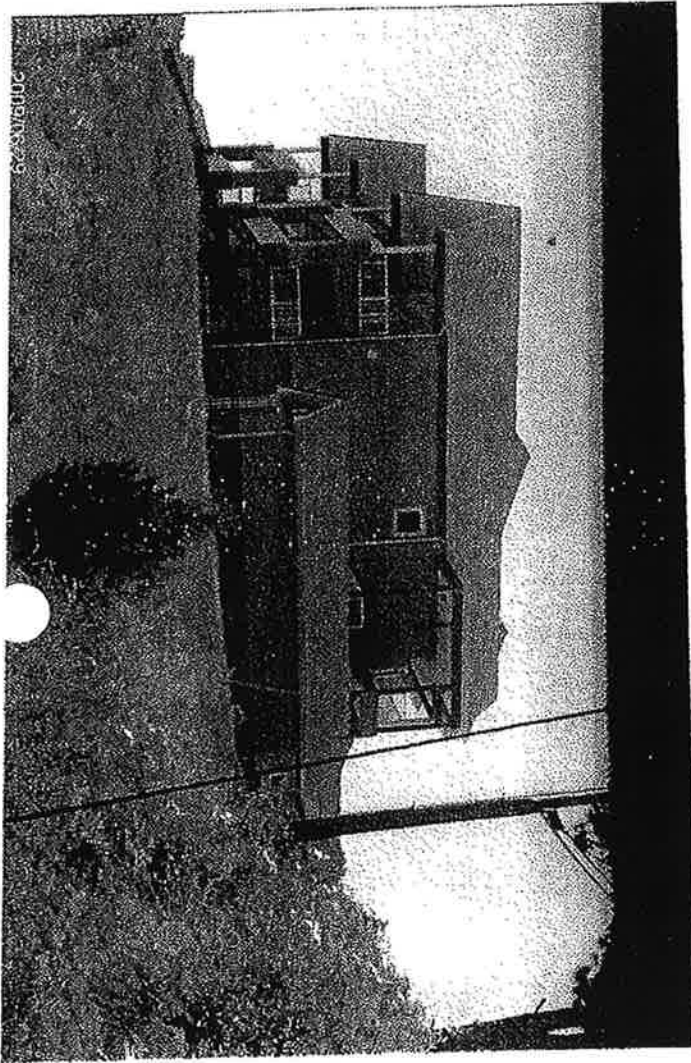




2009/06/29



2009/06/29



Winter
LAND RIVERA
PRIZE-WINNING
NEWSPAPER
UT-TPA PRESS AWARDS
2008

37030

28 pages

Single Copy 50c

Lancaster residents voice opposition to postal closing

Meeting held in Hickman

By Eddie West

Staff Writer

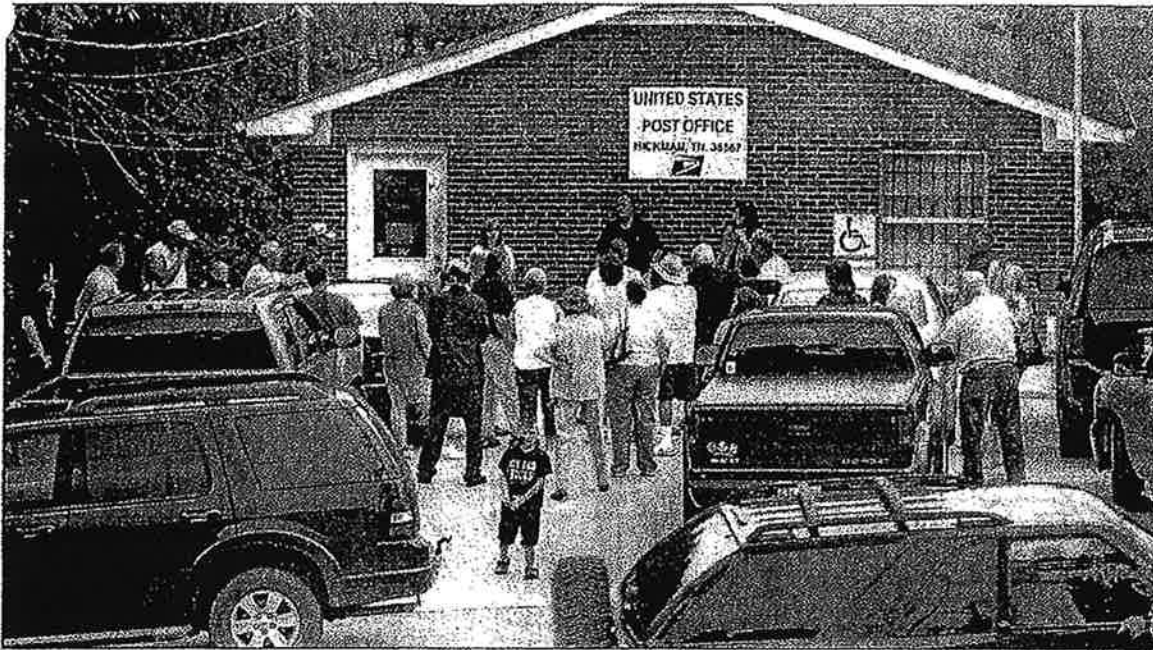
The Lancaster community has had a post office since 1821, but that is likely to change in the near future.

Service at the post office, which was made available on a part time basis, has been suspended since April of 2003.

While residents of the community retained a Lancaster address, mail is sorted and delivered out of the Hickman post office.

When service was suspended in 2003, a cluster box was set up between the town's fire hall and the building which housed

Please See Page A-8



EDDIE WEST/COURIER

Residents concerned about the potential closing of the Lancaster post office met with postal officials, Thursday, at the Hickman post office. Mail for Lancaster has been sorted at the Hickman office since the Lancaster post office operations were suspended six years ago.

Concerns voiced about post office closing

From page - A1

the post office located on Highway 141.

Residents who attended an hour plus meeting with postal officials sensed the post office will be closed.

The meeting was held at noon, Thursday, at the Hickman post office.

Postal officials who spoke at the meeting insisted they would be relaying residents' comments on to postal officials in Washington D.C. where the main decision would be made.

Postal officials at the meeting maintained residents would continue to receive their mail, if the post office is closed, under the same address.

Residents at the meeting were skeptical as to how long this would continue.

Postal officials have cited the lack of running water and no bathroom facilities in the building which housed the office as reasons for temporary suspension of service, which

is expected to result in the closing of the facility.

The building's owner, Allen Mason, who attended the meeting, said he would add both if the postal service asked him to.

In addition, postal officials cite the number of post offices within ten miles of the community as another reason the office could be closed. Those post offices include Hickman, Gordonsville, Chestnut Mound, Elmwood and Buffalo Valley.

Residents at Thursday's meeting asked why mail was being distributed through the Hickman post office when they had to pass the Gordonsville post office to reach Hickman.

Postal officials said they were unaware of this and would look into it.

Postal officials also noted another reason for the suspension in service and possible closing is the billions of dollars in revenue lost each year by the postal service.

Residents attending the

meeting cited a need for the post office and fear the community will lose its identity if the facility is closed.

Beneath threatening skies, some 25 or so residents stood in the Hickman post office parking lot and exchanged comments with four postal officials for well over an hour.

A notice of the meeting was recently posted at the Hickman post office.

Residents felt they should have received a notice of the meeting through the mail, rather than word of mouth.

Also, residents questioned why the meeting was not held in the Lancaster community and after work hours so more residents could attend.

Postal officials responded they were simply following postal guidelines.

Throughout the meeting postal officials re-iterated a decision whether to continue service at the post office on a part time basis had not been made, but residents felt otherwise.

"You're trying to justify a

decision which has already been made," commented one concerned citizen.

"We're here to listen to the community. We review the situation and it's up to headquarters to make the final decision," commented a postal official.

Residents have signed a petition against closing the office and filled out questionnaires.

County Mayor Michael Nesbitt said he had written letters to state and national legislators asking the post office remain open.

Billy Smith, a representative from Congressman Bart Gordon's office, also attended the meeting.

The building which housed the Lancaster post office was once Dr. Johnny Mason's office.

The last full-time postmaster at Lancaster was Carlene Helm. When Helm retired, individuals from other post offices came in for a couple of hours each day to sort the mail and left.